

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.)

Application No. 09/837,558)

Filed: April 19, 2001)

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD
THEREOF)

Group Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: Nathan W. Ha

Confirmation No. 7532

Date: May 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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Signature: _____

Name: Deborah Movahhedi

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop: AFTER FINAL
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 12, 2004, please consider the remarks in connection with the above-identified application as follows.

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of February 12, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

Claims 31-50 are pending for consideration, of which claims 31, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45 and 48 are independent. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, claims 31-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by previously cited Yamazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,603,453 - hereinafter Yamazaki '453). This rejection is respectfully traversed at least for the reasons provided below.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Yamazaki '453 discloses the feature wherein the active layer of the n-channel TFT is located over the first wiring line with the first insulating film interposed therebetween and the active layer of the p-channel TFT does not overlap any portion of the first wiring line. The Examiner only cites Fig. 18b of Yamazaki as providing support for the assertion in which active regions do not overlap the first metal layer.

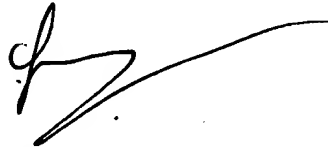
In response to the Examiner's assertion, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's assertion is insupportable for the reason that Yamazaki '453 discloses that all of the active regions are overlapped with the first wiring lines. As shown in Fig. 18b of Yamazaki '453, all three regions with slash marks under the underlying film 1703 in Fig. 18B are back gate electrode 1702. A detailed description of Fig. 18B can be found in column 30, lines 28-61, of Yamazaki '453. Applicants note that, although one of the regions is not explicitly labeled in Fig. 18b as back gate electrode, it can be understood that the region is a back gate electrode. Hence, Yamazaki '453 does not disclose that the active layer of the p-channel TFT does not overlap any portion of the first wiring line recited in claim 31, and Yamazaki '453 does not disclose the second semiconductor island not overlapping any portion of the first conductive film recited in claims 33, 36, 39, 42, 45 and 48.

Should the Examiner maintain the assertion that Fig. 18B of Yamazaki '453 discloses active regions not overlapping the first metal layer, Applicants will request the Examiner to be specific in helping Applicants to understand where in Fig. 18B that feature is shown.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

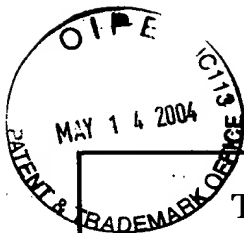
While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Luan C. Do', written over a horizontal line.

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AF/2814
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/837,558
		Filing Date	April 19, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
		Group Art Unit	2814
		Examiner Name	Nathan W. Ha
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	740756-2297

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Reconsideration/ Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt with Enclosures <input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed prepaid postcard for acknowledging receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO-1449 Form w/1 document
Remarks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 for the above identified docket number.	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	<u>Luan C. Do, Reg. No. 38,434</u> Nixon Peabody LLP 401 9 th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
Signature	
Date	May 12, 2004

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<u>5-12-04</u> Date	 Signature <u>D. Movahhedi</u> Typed or printed name